



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission
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Emergency Unemployment Benefits Available

Richmond—Governor Tim Kaine has signed an agreement with the U. S. Department of Labor for Virginians to participate in the federally funded extension of unemployment benefits approved by Congress as a component of H. R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008. These benefits and the associated administrative expenses will not have an impact on employers' Virginia tax liability.

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) has already notified over 58,800 Virginians of their potential eligibility for the Emergency Unemployment Compensation outlined in the Act. Over 15,000 applications have been returned and the VEC has worked diligently to process these claims as quickly as possible. As of today, 2,673 have been processed.

Under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation provisions, additional benefits will be made available to those who have exhausted all unemployment claims and have no additional eligibility. The program provides up to half of a person's original claim entitlement for up to 13 weeks. VEC Commissioner Dee Esser indicated, "There are many Virginian's who are struggling and it is my hope that this should provide some relief to them until they can find meaningful employment. This should provide a stimulus to Virginia's economy during these difficult economic times. As of today, payments have been issued totaling \$293,885."

The Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits program is effective July 6, 2008, through March 31, 2009.

Additional information regarding the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program is available on the VEC's Web site at www.VaEmploy.Com or by calling 1-866-832-2363.

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